Major World Religions

Drag and drop the information to the correct place to complete the comparisson chart about the major World religions.

	 Buddhism	 Christianity	 Hinduism	 Islam	 Judaism
Followers Worldwide*	354 million		762 million		
Name of Deity	The Buddha				God (Yahweh)
Founder	The Buddha	Jesus Christ	No one founder	Muhammad	Abraham
Holy Book		Bible	No one book—sacred texts, including the Vedas, the Puranas	Qur'an	
Leadership	Buddhist monks and nuns		Guru, Holy Man, Brahmin priest	No clergy	
Basic Beliefs					

1.2 billion

1.9 billion

Three main Gods: Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva

14 million

God

God (Allah)

Hebrew Bible, including the Torah

No one book—sacred texts, including the *Perfection of Wisdom Sutra*

Clergy (priests/ ministers)

Rabbis

•There is only one God, who watches over and cares for his people.
•Jesus Christ was the son of God. He died to save humanity from sin. His death and resurrection made eternal life possible for others.

•Persons achieve complete peace and happiness, known as nirvana, by eliminating their attachment to worldly things.
•Nirvana is reached by following the Noble Eightfold Path: Right views; Right aspirations; Right speech; Right conduct; Right livelihood; Right endeavor; Right mindfulness; Right meditation.

•Persons achieve salvation by following the Five Pillars of Islam and living a just life. These pillars are: faith; almsgiving, or charity to the poor; fasting, which Muslims perform during Ramadan; pilgrimage (to Mecca); and prayer.

•There is only one God, who watches over and cares for his people.
•God loves and protects his people, but also holds people accountable for their sins and shortcomings.
•Persons serve God by studying the Torah and living by its teachings.

•The soul never dies, but is continually reborn.
•Persons achieve happiness and enlightenment after they free themselves from their earthly desires.
•Freedom from earthly desires comes from a lifetime of worship, knowledge, and virtuous acts.

LIVEWORKSHEETS